Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification, as follows:

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, line 26 to page 5, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

In order to overcome the foregoing shortcomings, the spinel ferrimagnetic particles of the present invention is expressed by a composition formula $(CoO)_{0.5-x}(NiO)_{0.5-y}(MO)_{x+y.} \cdot n/2(Fe_2O_3)$ (M is a bivalent metal except Co and Ni) at the time of preparation, where a value of n (molar ratio) = ~~Fe/(Co + Ni + Zn)~~ Fe/(Co + Ni + M) is 2.0 < n < 3.0, which is larger than stoichiometric amount (n = 2) of a spinel ferrite and less than that of 1.5 times, and values of said x, y satisfy $0 \leqq x < 0.5$, $0 \leqq y < 0.5$, $0 < x+y < 0.5$. Further, superparamagnetic fine particles contained in the spinel ferrimagnetic particles is 5 % by mass or less. Here, the M as the bivalent metal is preferable to be Zn, Mn.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 17 to page 9, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

As described above, the spinel ferrimagnetic particles to be prepared is expressed by a composition formula $(CoO)_{0.5-x}(NiO)_{0.5-y}(MO)_{x+y} \cdot n/2(Fe_2O_3)$ at the time of preparation, where a value of n (molar ratio) = Fe/(Co + Ni + Zn) is 2.0 < n < 3.0, which is larger than stoichiometric amount (n = 2) of a spinel ferrite and less than that of 1.5 times. Further, it is a composition in which the values of x, y satisfy $0 \leqq x < 0.5$, $0 \leqq y < 0.5$, $0 < x+y < 0.5$. In other words, it is obtained

by substituting a part of Co(CoO) or Ni (NiO), or a part of combination of Co(CoO) and Ni(NiO) among the composition of the conventional Co-Ni system spinel ferrite with Zn (ZnO) as a bivalent metal. ~~With this composition, the content of the~~ The superparamagnetic fine particles <u>contained in the spinel ferrimagnetic particles produced as described above</u> becomes 5 % by mass or less, which ~~is~~ <u>are</u> substantially zero. Thereby, it is possible to obtain a magnetic material with the very small and uniform particle diameters, having an excellent magnetic property such as high coercivity. <u>Moreover, the superparamagnetic fine particles contained in said spinel ferromagnetic particles becomes 5 % by mass or less, which are substantially zero, so that stable recording can be maintained when used for recording media. Especially, it is an excellent magnetic material to be used for the recording media, even for a magnetic tape which is used in a wound state without causing magnetic transcription.</u> The specific preparing method will be described in the followings.

Please replace the paragraph at page 28, lines 1 to 7, with the following amended paragraph:

As for the specific composition, the composition formula is $(CoO)_{0.5-x}$ $(NiO)_{0.5-y}(MnO)_{x+y} \cdot n/2(Fe_2O_3)$, where, the value of the molar ratio of Fe to (Co + Ni + Mn), that is, n = ~~Fe/(Co + Ni + Zn)~~ <u>Fe/(Co + Ni + Mn)</u>, is 2.0 < n < 3.0, and the value of x is $0 \leqq x < 0.5$, the value of y is $0 \leqq y < 0.5$, and the value of x + y is 0 < x + y < 0.5. The producing method is the same as that of the above-described Examples.